

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 45, 70, 71 and 72 have been amended. Claims 1-44, 52-61 and 64-69 have been canceled. Claims 45-51, 62, 63 and 70-72 are currently under consideration.

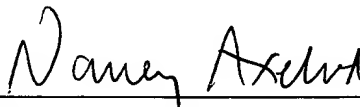
The sole ground of rejection in the Office Action of January 26, 2005 is a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, in which the Examiner alleges that the claim language "air-tight" is not described by the specification. Applicants disagree. However, in an effort to expedite prosecution, claims 45, 70, 71 and 72 have been amended to recite that the coating is a continuous low oxygen or gas permeable coating, which language was suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action. The amendments are fully supported in the specification, and do not narrow the scope of the claims. No new matter has been added.

In view of the preceding amendments, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Should any additional fee be deemed due, please charge such fee to our Deposit Account No. 22-0261, and notify the undersigned accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 26, 2005



Nancy J. Axelrod, Ph.D.
Registration No. 44,014
VENABLE
P.O. Box 34385
Washington, D.C. 20043-9998
Telephone: (202) 962-4800
Direct: (202) 344-8334
Telefax: (202) 344-8300

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